New Haven 19th 1839

My Dear Mrs C.

Though not just now an inhabitant of your State let me assure you I feel deeply interested in all that is going on there for the ultimate triumph of truth. The Liberator brings me news weekly of your conflicts & trials as well as of your prosperity & success. Your Motto as well as that many others still is onward. Truth is great & will prevail - I was much rejoiced at the success of your fair. Think you have triumphed gloriously. As friend Collins thinks Mr Cash is a better stimulant to labor than Mr Sash he has undoubtedly received a fresh impulse to be faithful - Your remarks upon the proper estimate of money were most excellent. Some of the students, I mean young ministers, thought they were so beautiful & so truthful too they would make a valuable accession to their books of gems. What are you going to do with your Boston Female Anti Slavery Society? As a society you can no more walk together agreed. I think Miss Parker, Ball & others must feel very unpleasantly situated. I notice your Right & Wrong in Mass is making trouble with the consciences of Messrs Phelps & Torrey - It is astonishing that they should be so disturbed by a woman! What will they do? they can not argue the subject, for by so doing they will encourage womans rights - I should think the disclosures of the last Liberator

P.S. I feel quite unwilling to send this scrawl - I know it is not worth your perusal But I want to let you know I have not forgotten you & your noble coadjutors in the sacred strife for all. There are students here who often speak of you & Mrs Child with the greatest respect = There begins to be some talk about the approaching Anniversary at N York - There will be a great struggle then - You will probably be there - Wish you & other Boston friends would pass through this place - A few of us are anxious to see friend Wright here - We want to have him have a chance to discuss the peace question with Dr Ty as well as with the Students There is more freedom here than at Andover I doubt not but friend W would get a good hearing here Will you not remember me to him also to friend Garrison & tell one or both to come this way - We want to see them & the great door & effectual will be opened to them. I expect E. C. Smith will come here shortly will you not send me your Right & Wrong in Mass I will settle with you -

When you can spare the time will you not write me? If you don't agree with some sentiments herein expressed tell me. Do you think a sincere disciple of Christ can reject any known truth? What do you think young men most of all need to make them useful & happy? If agreeable will you not answer these questions -

Give my kindest regards to Mr C & your sisters

W. C.

Please remember me to friend Collins - Do send Bro Wright or Garrison here shortly -

would satisfy Mr T. How can he vindicate himself? —
Methinks from what I can learn here the New society in spite
of all Mr Wright's efforts will die. Mr Birney told a student
the other day he advised its formation but he was fearful
it would not work. Thus you see Mr B. begins to fear. —
Mr Ludlow of this city & some others think the new so-
ciety will soon be reckoned with those things that were. —
But don't let the agents of the old society strive unlaw-
fully. I have thought that some things which have
been said would do more to promote the A. Societies interests than
to destroy them. Persecution will never be honored as
an instrument in putting down our enemies. Let truth, facts
be used in all their naked majesty as our only weapons of
warfare. A query has risen in my mind whether the abolition-
ists of the Old Soc: were not making their discussions
too secular & personal; or in other words whether they
do not take to much notice of little things. I some-
times think the new society has been made too much
of. It is not worthy the attention it has received. The best
way to secure the destruction of some things is to let them
pass mostly unnoticed. Leave them to perish amid their own
weakness & obscurity. In carrying certain great principles it's better
to move straitly forward concious of their rectitude & importance than
to turn aside frequently to notice objections & adversaries. We
had better answer them as Nehemiah did Sanballat "we
are doing a great work & can not come down" I think
this principle will apply not only to those engaged in
the Anti Slavery enterprise but to others. I have no

doubt but that religion has greatly suffered by taking too much notice of sceptics & infidels - Let us not strive so much to pull down as to build up - Nevertheless says the Apostle shew I unto you a more excellent way - Our only hope of destroying slavery must be in the power of truth accompanied with Gods blessing - Truth will not do it alone; nor will God do it by some miraculous interference - Both must go together - "Paul must plant & Apollos must water but God alone must give the increase - I hope you & others engaged with you will not be "weary in well doing "Truth is the daughter of time - You can not expect to estab great principles without protracted labor. The adversary will c test every inch of ground, but when vanquished once will be vanquished forever - I wish I could communicate something interesting from this place - But alas New Haven like the Athens of old, beautiful for situation & scenery & rich in classic lore is given up to idolatry; The Goddess of fashion & show presides over the destinies of the city - All more or less worship at her shrine - Mr Ludlow whose fame as an abolitionist is some what known prays for the slave. He was once active. He now sympathizes with abolitionists & would do anything to advance their cause in his power. There are many warm friends of liberty in his church, but they are lost in the great mass. The other churches are preeminently proslavery though there is some movement among them since the landing of the Amistad

I think the condition of these poor captives here & still is doing much to remove the prejudice against color. Thousands have visited them & seem to take a lively interest in their welfare. They are soon to have their trial. Should like to see some of the Boston friends here. You have heard much of the fame of Leonard Bacon. He came out against Non Resistance thanksgiving day. He labored hard to establish the rightfulness & sacredness of human government. His sermon may be printed. In two of the other churches Abolition & abolitionists were favorably noticed. As to the Theological Seminary three out of four of the Profs. are friendly to abolition. They contribute to the enterprise. The Students are more than half members of abolition societies. We have recently had a warm discussion upon the question "Would it be a blessing to the church and the world to abolish slavery immediately. It was decided by more than two to one in the affirmative.

Paid

Mrs Maria W Chapman
Boston
Mass.

NEW HAVEN Ct. DEC 23

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William R. Chapman
1839
asking questions
never ans.

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The discussion was one of more than usual interest. Dr Taylor presided as chairman & after the discussion closed summed up the arguments & then gave his decision. He was in the negative. Though he said he would not justify the abuses of slavery. He would stop the domestic slave trade. He would have the slaves lawfully married. He would have them receive compensation for their labor. He would have them as good opportunities for education as the whites. He would give the master no power over the slave to whip & scourge him. Now what do you think Dr T's slavery is? Why it is this the slaves ought to retire at night & rise in the morning at their masters word. This is Dr T's slavery. It is all that he will justify. Now is it not ridiculous superlatively ridiculous for a grave learned Doctor of Divinity to talk about such a system of slavery? The fact is the Dr was obliged to take this position to be consistent. He has frequently said slavery is not a malum per se. But after all Dr T is vastly better than most men of his profession. He is for free discussion. He is willing to discuss slavery or peace & he will take a part himself. I have no doubt but he would gladly hear friend Garrison or any other able advocate of the slave. He wishes no more. Yours &c Wm R Chapman